

That which is claimed is:

5 1. An assembly for releasably securing a mirror support arm and tie-bar together, the assembly comprising:
 a connection head mountable to the mirror support arm for supporting a mirror, the connection head defining a connection element;
 a positive lock assembly disposed proximate the connection element, the positive lock assembly defining a spring constant urging a locking element of the positive lock assembly to a resting position and yielding the locking element of the positive lock assembly to an external force; and
 a holder attached to the tie-bar, the holder configured so as to be slidable onto the connection element, the holder defining a swivel face having a depression therein, the locking element of the positive lock assembly positionable in the depression, the spring constant of the positive lock assembly urging the positive lock assembly to the resting position in the depression such that the holder is releasably secured to the connection head.

10 2. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the connection head further defines a seat and a mounting element, the seat configured to receive the positive lock assembly, the mounting element configured to mount the connection head to the mirror support arm.

15 3. The assembly of Claim 2, wherein the positive lock assembly defines a flange configured for seating in the seat of the mounting element.

5 4. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the positive lock assembly
defines a ball-shaped cross-section.

5 5. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the tie bar defines a longitudinal axis, the tie
bar configured for displacement along the longitudinal axis for one of sliding the holder
onto the connection element or sliding the holder apart from the connection element.

10 6. The assembly of Claim 5, wherein the tie bar and holder are configured for
displacement away from the longitudinal axis such that the holder is slidable onto or apart
from the connection element to respectively couple or uncouple the holder and the
rotation element.

15 7. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the holder includes a plurality of retaining
projections and respective recesses disposed between the retaining projections and the
swivel face, the recesses slidable about the connection element, the retaining projections
extending inwardly at an angle in a direction of the depression.

8 8. The assembly of Claim 7, wherein the retaining projections are spaced apart from
one another so as to swivably interlock the connection element of the connection head
therebetween.

20 9. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the holder has a U-shaped cross-section.

10 10. The assembly of Claim 1, further including an open end defined in the holder and
a guide channel defined in the open end, the open end configured to receive the
connection element, the guide channel configured to receive and depress the positive lock
assembly to swivably interlock the holder and the connection head.

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5 11. The assembly of Claim 10, wherein the guide channel has a bowl-shaped cross-section.

12. The assembly of Claim 10, wherein a width of the guide channel narrows from the open end in a direction of the depression.

10 13. The assembly of Claim 1, further including a spring holder configured for attachment between the connection head and the mirror support arm, the spring holder defining a surface shaped complementary to the mirror support arm and configured to seat the mirror support arm.

15 14. The assembly of Claim 13, further including a spring element disposed between the connection head and the spring holder, the spring holder defining a spring seat to seat the spring element.

15. The assembly of Claim 14, wherein the spring holder defines a catch for attachment to the connection head to capture the spring element between the connection head and the spring holder.

16. A vehicle mirror assembly for mounting a mirror to a vehicle body, the assembly
20 comprising:

25 a connection head defining a connection element mountable to one of two ends of a tie bar, the other end of the tie bar being pivotally mounted to a vehicle; a positive lock assembly disposed proximate the connection element, the positive lock assembly defining a spring constant urging the positive lock assembly toward a resting position; and

5 a holder mountable to a mirror support arm for supporting a mirror, the holder defining a swivel face having a depression therein, the positive lock assembly yieldable to an external force against the swivel face and positionable in the depression, the spring constant of the positive lock assembly urging the positive lock assembly to the resting position in the depression such that the holder is rotatably secured to the
10 connection head.

17. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, wherein the connection head further defines a seat configured to receive the positive lock assembly.

18. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, wherein the positive lock assembly includes a locking mechanism and a spring element, the spring element configured to urge the locking mechanism towards the resting position.
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19. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, wherein the tie bar defines a longitudinal axis, the tie bar configured for displacement along the longitudinal axis for one of sliding the connection element into the holder or sliding the connection element apart from the holder.

20. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, wherein the tie bar and the holder are configured for displacement away from the longitudinal axis such that the holder is slidable onto or apart from the connection element disk to respectively couple or uncouple the holder and the connection element.
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21. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, wherein the holder includes two retaining projections and respective recesses disposed between the projections and the

5 swivel face, the connection element slidable between the recesses, the two retaining projections extending inwardly at an angle in a direction of the depression.

22. The vehicle mirror assembly of Claim 16, further including an open end defined in the holder and a guide channel disposed in the open end, the open end configured to receive the connection element, the guide channel configured to receive and depress the 10 positive lock assembly to swivably interlock the holder and the connection head.

23. A method for attaching a vehicle mirror assembly to a vehicle body, the method comprising the steps of:

 pivottally attaching a first end of a tie bar to a vehicle;
 mounting a connection head to a second end of the tie bar or to a mirror support arm for supporting a mirror, the connection head defining a connection element;
15 mounting a holder to the other of the second end of the tie bar or the mirror support arm;
 inserting a positive lock assembly proximate the connection element, the positive lock assembly defining a spring constant for urging the positive lock assembly to a resting position and for yielding the positive lock assembly to an external force; and
20 sliding the holder and the connection element together, the holder defining a swivel face having a depression therein, the positive lock assembly yieldable to the external force and positionable in the depression, the spring constant of the positive lock assembly urging the positive lock assembly to the resting position in the depression such 25 that the holder and the connection head are rotatably secured together.

5 24. The method of Claim 23, further comprising the step of displacing the tie bar along a longitudinal axis of the tie bar for one of sliding the holder and the connection element apart or for sliding the holder and the connection element together.

10 25. The method of Claim 23, further comprising the step of displacing the tie bar and the holder away from the longitudinal axis substantially simultaneous with the longitudinal displacement such that the holder and the connection element are slidable onto or apart from each other to respectively couple or uncouple the holder and the connection element.

15 26. The method of Claim 23, wherein the holder includes a plurality of retaining projections and respective recesses disposed between the retaining projections and the swivel face, the recesses slidable about the connection element, the retaining projections extending inwardly at an angle in a direction of the depression.

20 27. The method of Claim 23, further including the step of depressing the positive lock assembly as the holder and the connection head are slid together, the holder defining an open end therein and a guide channel disposed in the open end, the open end configured to receive the connection element, the guide channel configured to receive and depress the positive lock assembly.